

*****September 13, 2021*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Charles Poss
Vice Mayor Susannah Murdock
Councilmember Vicki Anderson
Councilmember Andrew Gardner

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Special Proj. & Compliance Manager Sam Guin
See attached list for others present

Mayor Poss led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes

The minutes for the July 24, 2021 special called meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

The minutes for the July 26, 2021 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

The minutes for the August 9, 2021 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Poss asked if there were any requests to address the Council.

Dan Landrum, Kentucky Avenue, said he had filed an open records request for Council's e-mails regarding the budget, personnel, and staff in general. He spoke in support of giving the full 4% increase to employees as recommended by the Burris Thompson Pay Study, the Personnel Committee, and Town management. He further added that his review of the materials does not indicate any significant opposition to the increase from residents.

Anne Hagood, James Boulevard, said that the tax payers and town employees are on the same side. She asked the Council to move away from divisiveness.

There being no further requests, the meeting proceeded.

Mayor Poss informed the Council that formal action was required to appoint Councilmember Gardner as liaison to the Personnel Committee as agreed to at the previous meeting. Councilmember Anderson made a motion to appoint Councilmember Gardner as the liaison to the Personnel Committee. Mayor Poss seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS "PROPERTY CONSERVATION" MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM."

Councilmember Anderson made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the resolution was approved.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH A.D. ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF TWELVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$12,500) TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN OF CERTAIN STORMWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS ON MISSISSIPPI AVENUE AND JAMES BOULEVARD AND APPROVING CONTINGENCY FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$1,250) FOR ADDITIONAL COSTS AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT."

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the resolution was approved.

3. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2021 AIR BURNER MODEL S220 AIR CURTAIN INCINERATOR, GSA CONTRACT# 47QMCA20D000C, FROM AIR BURNERS, INC. FOR THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND 40/100 (\$136,777.40) TO BE USED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE."

Council noted a minor correction in the heading that did not affect the substance of the resolution. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the Resolution after amending the heading from 44/100 to 40/100. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion to approve the amended resolution. All present being in favor, the amended resolution was approved.

Ordinances

1. "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 18-808 OF THE TOWN CODE TO ESTABLISH NEW FEES FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN STORMWATER UTILITY."

Vice Mayor Murdock made a motion to approve the first reading of the Ordinance. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the first reading of the ordinance was approved.

Discussion

- a. Masking – Town Public Spaces. Mayor Poss said there have been no changes since the last discussion. He said to keep doing what we can as a Town to get beyond COVID. Council agreed to review this issue at the next meeting.
- b. Stormwater Annual Report. Town Manager, Boyd Veal, informed the Council that the annual stormwater report has been completed. He said that once it is submitted to the State the report will be available on the Town's website.
- c. TDOT Agreement – SR-8. Mr. Veal informed the Council that staff has reviewed the agreement with the State. He said that the Town will be responsible for the maintenance of the right-of-way (ROW). Mr. Veal said a resolution will be prepared for the next meeting to transfer the small amount of ROW property to the State.
- d. Voting Procedure for Council Appointment. Following discussion, Council agreed to have a special meeting to select the new council member. They agreed to meet on Tuesday, September 21st at 6:00 p.m. Council further agreed on a voting process, and determined that each applicant would receive 2-3 minutes to give a statement. Mr. Veal suggested written ballots, and the Council agreed.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal explained that a final rule is expected on the Federal Covid funding program. In the meantime, he said, an authorized representative has to be appointed. Council agreed to appoint Carol White, Finance Director.

Mr. Veal said that he has attended meeting with the 9-1-1 and WWTa agencies. He said he met last week with the Personnel Committee and Planning Commission.

Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor/Council.

Councilmember Anderson said she had recently met with the employees of the Public Works Department. She expressed her intent to visit each department. Councilmember Anderson said that she is grateful to the employees and that what they do is important and valued.

Mayor Poss said he has been in touch with Honna Rogers, Management Consultant with the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS). He explained that MTAS can perform a department-by-department review looking for efficiencies and budget savings.

Councilmember Anderson said that her meetings with residents indicates they want the small businesses of the Town to be more active.

b. Reports from Committees or Boards.

Councilmember Gardner reported that the Personnel Committee met on September 7th. He reported that there were only 3 members present, and that they tabled any action on recommending a 4% base salary increase as originally proposed. Council asked that the committee try to schedule a special meeting before October 6.

Mayor Poss said that the Planning Commission will be meeting to work towards consistency in the minor sub-division regulations.

c. Other. None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14p.m.



Charles Poss, Mayor



Recorder